



President's Message: Ignacio De La Torre

September and October are busy months for the club. A Fall Show, a picnic and auction, and club meetings including one at the Japanese Friendship Garden this month keep us quite busy. As such, this edition of the newsletter is a combined September/October edition. In addition to information on these events found in this newsletter, notices will be sent via email as we approach our Fall events. Keep an eye out.

The largest club with the smallest trees. A friend with whom I worked for many years mentioned this to me when I told her that ours was the largest club in the US (we have 482 members and growing). It's something we're proud of. And with that come some hurdles. One of the challenges in operating a large club and providing services to our many members is to make our club feel in every way like a smaller club. This often happens through volunteerism. We don't have a shortage of volunteers. Every month, we recognize those individuals who lend their expertise to our classes and workshops, those who bring in items for our refreshments and raffle tables, our AV team, newsletter editors, and those who help to maintain our bonsai collections. We also appreciate those who help with setup and clean up at meetings and during shows.

Another way of offering support to the club is through service on the Board of Directors. We have a dedicated group of volunteers who serve in this capacity. When life gets in the way we sometimes lose a Board member. Markel Farley, vice president of Special Projects, will step off the board at the end of the year so he can focus on his Masters thesis.

This position oversees our Spring and Fall shows, and our occasional bus trips. Like the other positions, the club can't operate without it. Markel has offered to help the person who takes on this position. That's a big offer which should make the transition much easier.

We also have numerous volunteers who hold necessary and important posts. Positions such as Refreshments Coordinator, club liaisons and curators for our collections, Raffle Coordinator, librarian, and Tool Sales Coordinator, among them.

Christine and Darryl Elmer have served as Tool Sales Managers for a couple of years. They can be found managing our Tool table during most meetings. In this role, they oversee ordering tools and material which are then sold during club meetings. They, too, will leave their post at the end of the year. And they have offered to help in the transition.

Continued page 4



California Juniper (Sherwin Amimoto)

Next Meeting

September 11, 2022:

Japanese Friendship Garden
at Balboa Park

see pg. 2 for more details

Beg Classes 8:30AM room 104

Int Class 8:30AM room 104

Meeting 10:30AM

Fall Show September 17-18

see pg. 4 for more details

October 9, 2022

Picnic at Lake Poway

see pg. 3 for more details

Classes: see page ???

Resources:

visit our website for information on private instructors and other resources to advance your bonsai skills

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com



Upcoming meetings: Kyle Icke, VP

Sunday September 11, 2022 - at Japanese Friendship Garden

Our next meeting takes place at the beautiful Japanese Friendship Garden ("JFG"). This is a very popular meeting. Attendees will have an opportunity to visit the club's bonsai collection which is curated by Neil Auwarter and a team of volunteers as well as the JFG grounds following the meeting. SDBC members are provided free access to the JFG for this event. Following the meeting, you are welcome to explore the JFG. We will be joined by Jason Chan who serves as our presenter.

Please note the following:

1. Entry to the JFG will be through the rear gate located behind the Organ Pavilion and to the right as one walks toward the back of the Pavilion (see photos). The main entrance will not be available for entry.
2. Please park in the large lot behind the Organ Pavilion across from the international houses. Enter the parking lot via President's Way by way of Park Blvd.
3. We will not host a raffle table. For those members who planned to donate items, please hold on to them until our November meeting.
4. We will have a food and refreshments table. Please feel free to bring in items as so many of you do at each meeting.
5. Set up will begin at 8:30 am. Volunteers are welcome to join us as we arrange tables and chairs.
6. This meeting takes place outdoors. There are limited areas with shade and the weather could be warm. Dress appropriately and don't forget your sunscreen and hats.



Picture of rear side of Organ Pavilion



Picture of back gate to the JFG

Classes and workshops will remain in Room 104 at Casa de Prado.

We thank Barbara French-Lee, club liaison to the Garden, for arranging our meeting. It should be an exciting and event-filled day.

Sunday October 9, 2022 – at Lake Poway Picnic and Auction



The club will hold its annual Lake Poway Picnic and Auction. It is an opportunity for members and their guests to enjoy each other's company and bid on bonsai-related items. We have reserved the Lake Poway Pavilion from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. allowing us to picnic and socialize at leisure.

An attendee sign-up sheet will be made available during the September club meeting. The club will provide the main dish (ham and turkey), rolls, and water. We ask members to bring a side dish. Every year we have members who make their special dishes. We always look forward to those items.

If you plan to attend, please sign up so we have a good count for food and refreshments.

Parking is free for Poway residents with proof of residency. Non-residents must pay a \$10 parking fee. The club purchased parking permits for 50 vehicles for non-residents. This covers parking for everyone in the vehicle. Simply let the booth attendant know you are attending the San Diego Bonsai Club event. The attendant can also direct you to the meeting space which is the same area we use every year.

During the event, there will be a live auction as well as a silent auction. Members have been generous with donations and their bidding in the past and we appreciate your support. We ask you to look through your stockpile of items for donations of trees, pots, books, and other bonsai-related items. This is generally a good opportunity for members to purchase nice items at a good price.

If you have an interest in helping during the event with things such as set-up, checking in guests and their donations, food arrangement or clean-up, please note the schedule below. We will gladly accept any help you can offer.

9:00 a.m.: Arrival and Setup
9:30 a.m.: Bring in auction and food items
10:30 a.m.: Event begins — silent auction bidding opens, board reports
11:30 a.m.: Lunch
12:30 p.m. - silent auction closes
1:00-2:00 p.m.: Live auction and checkout of sold items
2:00 p.m to 3:00 p.m. cleanup

Lake Poway is located at:
14644 Lake Poway Road
Poway, CA 92064

We thank Jaya Kaelberer for making the arrangements at the Lake. We look forward to a great event. We will send out reminders as the date approaches.

Library News: by Sonya Holmquist,

In a recent blog, Jonas Dupuich (bonsaitonight.com) talks about ways he uses exhibition books such as the Kokofu books. The first is just to leaf through them when he has a moment to relax and enjoy the photos of the fantastic bonsai displays.

But he also uses them for more directed study. Sometimes, when working on a new species, he will look to see how that tree has been styled by different artists over time. If he's preparing for a show, he will use the books to get display ideas, especially when the show offers enough space for a two- or three-point display. And, when teaching his intensive classes, he sometimes traces the outline of the trunk of a tree and makes copies so his students can place the primary branches.

The SDBC library has many of the Kokofu books, along with books from exhibits in Europe, the U.S. and other Asian countries. The periodicals we subscribed to also feature pictures from current exhibits around the world. Stop by and have a look and check some out.



Special Event: by Markel Farley, VP

Annual Fall Show - September 17th & 18th

Help the club host our annual fall show! The club is continuing to plan for the annual fall show! Table sign-ups for tree displays and volunteer sign-up sheets will be made available during the meeting. Volunteering is available September 15th - 18th. We still need more volunteers for each position and table displays. Please sign up for a volunteer role at the next club meeting.

Volunteer Positions: Tear Down, Set Up, Roaming Security, Sales Table Cashier, Sales Table Check In/Out, Food for Volunteers, Front Door Info, Demonstrations, Membership Info, Kitchen Clean Up, Put Up/Take Down Flags, and Assist Bringing in Trees (Sale and Show).

Recap of the Nisei Week Japanese Festival Bus Trip : Club members and guests traveled in a nice charter bus to Chino, Little Tokyo, and Lakewood. During the Nisei week festival, we spent time watching performances, viewing bonsai displays, learning about Japanese culture, shopping, and eating great food. Members from other bonsai clubs were present and we had a good showing to represent our club.

We also visited Jidia Bonsai who provided snacks, fresh fruit, and beverages while we explored and shopped for bonsai trees, materials, and pots. The nursery also had a selection of tortoises and a friendly greeter dog to keep us company. On our return route, we stopped at House of Bonsai to purchase bonsai trees and materials. The nursery is currently internationally sourcing Japanese pots and supplies three times a year. Members were able to purchase a good variety of products.

Although not a far drive to purchase larger items, both nurseries are increasing their presence online as well. Both nurseries also invited our club members to return. If you visit the nurseries make sure to mention you are a member of San Diego Bonsai Club! The club is excited to see the newly purchased pots and trees put to use by members. Maybe one day they will be displayed in our shows.

Special Projects Role: The special projects role will be available in January 2023. Nominations will begin this year. This is a great opportunity to become involved in the club. I am open to members shadowing my activities to learn more about the special projects role. I am also open to questions via email. My contact information is located in the bonsai wire. I will continue to advise the new appointee to the special projects role throughout the 2023 year to ensure successful transition and training. Please contact me for additional information.

Presidents Message continued, by Ignacio De La Torre

If anyone is interested in serving as VP of Special Projects while on the Board of Directors or as the Tool Sales Manager, please reach out to any of the Board members.

We are happy to share additional information with you.

During last month's meeting, Brenda Crann kicked off her Beginner class with a full house. A great deal of work goes into a three-session class. We extend a special thank Brenda and her volunteers — Wendy Pollack, Cathy Edgar, Carla Marasco, Gary Jones, Bob Hale, and Mark Edgar. And we held our first-ever Summer Repotting Workshop. It was a hit. We extend a warm thanks to Janice and Bob Hale, who mix up the club's bonsai soil and brought 10 five-gallon buckets of soil to the workshop. We also thank Dennis Wagner, John Jackson, and Uday Pandey who helped the many workshop participants, and Fred Miyahara who repotted one dozen club olives.

Finally, the September meeting takes place at the beautiful Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park. Details are in the newsletter. We thank Barbara French-Lee for making the arrangements (Barb is the club liaison to the Garden.)

Japanese Friendship Garden: by Neil Auwarter, Curator

Thanks to our August volunteers, Barbara French-Lee, Don Liddell, Aaron Mathankeri, Charlie Mosse, and Brenda Myers.

Much of August was spent tuning up junipers: shaping pads, removing or jin-ing redundant branches, cleaning out crotch growth, and cleaning live veins. Summer visitors to the collection have included spider mites, various scale, pine needle aphids, standard aphids, and white flies. Most are well controlled by weekly thorough hosing of the foliage. Exceptions were scale, which required application of horticultural oil or soap, and aphids, which required a soil drench of Bayer Tree & Shrub systemic.

The JFG bonsai crew are excited to host the club's upcoming monthly meeting September 11, where Eastern Leaf's Jason Chan will be our guest presenter. See you at the garden!



California Juniper (Sherwin Amimoto)



Japanese Garden Juniper (Kathy Edgar)



Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park: ‘Lyn Stevenson, Liaison

Its a beautiful summer at the Bonsai Pavilion for visitors, staff, and our very important cadre of Volunteers!

The accolades continue from friends always and many visitors frequently ask why there is not more directory signage from the Park for the Bonsai Pavilion. Many people come onto the Pavilion just by chance and are always intrigued, delighted, and most surprised to find this incredible exhibition. We will continue to ask the Safari Park to provide some official directions as we have in the past.

Since there is a conflict in August with the SDBC bus trip and the Bonsai Show in September at Balboa Park, we will also have some extra workdays at the Pavilion on August 20 and 27 and in September on the 10th, 17th, and 24th. In October, we will have workdays on the 1st, 15th, and 29th. There is always a need for special attention in the Pavilion . . .Visitors really enjoy asking questions and talking with the volunteers and would really enjoy having a Bonsaiist there every day! We explain to the visitors that the “crew” in the Pavilion are all SDBC members and volunteers. . .the bonsai are all donated and only the volunteers from the SDBC maintain them. . .They are even more impressed then!

Our August volunteers include: Alan Burrows, Nate Chongsiriwatana, Julia Chow, Brenda Crann, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Chuck Fasilis, Joan Frampton, Matthew Gelacio, Bob & Janice Hale, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchner, Carol Ann McManus, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Camille Newton, Nune Richards, ‘lyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and Ken Zito. Nune, Carol Ann and Camille are the new volunteers joining us at the Pavilion and we welcomed their enthusiasm. New volunteers are SDBC members and must also provide information and complete the applications to Safari Park before they can receive their ID cards, name badges, and official red shirts. Then, we provide the continuing bonsai education and explanations and routines in the Pavilion. It’s gratifying and always fun!

After the old Pagoda was moved from the hill and cemented in the upper pond, another bonsai pedestal was completed and placed next to the waterfall. . .Appropriately, it can hold a really impressive large bonsai for the display. Another winner! Thanks especially to Curator John, Assistant Dennis and volunteers all!



Feature Article: 'Fertilizer' by Charlie Mosse

Fertilizers....A complex subject but easy to distill in time. NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium)

The topic of fertilizers is confusing on a good day and very frustrating on other days. It is a very broad subject to start with but, over time you will distill the information and it all will become clearer. You will select several fertilizers to use that fit your needs. Today we will start chipping away at this complex subject.

If you do not have the experience with fertilizers, then:

-Ask club members at the monthly meetings.

-You can also pose questions on:

- **SDBC FaceBook page** or,
- **Email** the question(s) to the SDBC email on the website at....<https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/contact.html>.

Members will definitely benefit from these questions.

Good discussions of fertilizers can be found at:

- Ryan Neil of Bonsai Mirai in his Forum Q&A, Live Q & A and Live Streams.
- Jonas Dupuich of BonsaiTonight in his Blog where topics are cataloged.
- Eric Schrader of Bonsaify in his blog and on his site.
- Michael Hagedorn of Crataegus Bonsai. He wrote an excellent book that covers many topics about growing bonsai called *Bonsai Heresy*. His book dispels many myths about growing plants that we have been taught over the years and nicely covers fertilizing bonsai.
- Bjorn Bjorholm of Eisei En Bonsai.

Soil chemistry is very complex. To start, having a soil test conducted is a good to do so that you know what nutrients are in the soil. But note that most bonsai soil mixes out of the bag or freshly mixed have little nutrient value to them to start with. So, a test at this point could be pointless. It is safe to assume that there is essentially no nutrient. Once you start fertilizing and you have some issues, then a test can be very useful.

However, not all soil tests are equal. Some are inexpensive but do not tell the whole story and some are more costly but give you more important detail. A result from an inexpensive test may tell you how much NPK and other nutrients are in your soil but may not tell you what the different types of N,P,K and whether they are even available to be taken up by the roots. But even an inexpensive test is a good place to start.

I received an email from a member who was reading a nursery ad for various fertilizers. It made them wonder what the significant differences are among the many fertilizers sold today. Aside from trace elements which most manufacturers incorporate into their formulations, how different is a 5-5-5 from one company compared with a 5-5-5 from another company? How different are the fertilizers from the same company that state they are for different purposes like Rose fertilizer vs Vegetable fertilizer vs Tree fertilizer vs Acid type fertilizers where the NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium) numbers are only a few percentage points different? Many times when there are small percentage differences or no difference in fertilizer content it does not much matter which one you use. The different labels are mostly for marketing to us to make the choice easier and also hoping we will buy more than one bag. Not misleading, just confusing sometimes.

To start, a good example within one brand is the Espoma Tones group of organic fertilizers by Espoma Organic Fertilizers. Good products of which several are used by quite a few members, primarily Plant-tone, Holly-tone and Soil Acidifier (gypsum+soil sulfur for lowering soil pH). The NPK, calcium and sulfur are essentially the same. The only significant difference among the fertilizers is the amount of sulfur in the Holly-tone which is much higher than in the Plant-tone to help lower the pH and the calcium in the Tomato-tone to help with tomato blossom end rot. Can the Holly-tone or Plant-tone be used on the same plants? For the most part, yes, and there will be little if any difference in the plant's health. With our water quality problems, Holly-tone is a good choice for use as a general fertilizer.



Note also that all of the fertilizers have the same sources for the ingredients so that variable is eliminated.

	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphorus (P)	Potassium (K)	Calcium (Ca)	Sulfur (S)
Plant-tone	5 (.4,1.6,3)	3	3	5	1
Holly-tone	4	3	4	5	5
Tomato-tone	3	4	6	8	2.5
Flower-tone	3	4	5	5	1
Garden-tone	3	4	4	5	2

Nitrogen is mostly water insoluble with small % of ammoniacal and other water soluble N.
 Numbers in parentheses in order are % of total nitrogen : ammoniacal fast release, other water soluble N that is quick to moderate release, and water insoluble like urea and organics are slow release N.
 Ingredient info was taken directly from the labels.

Knowing the types of nitrogen in the fertilizer will tell you how quickly the nitrogen will be available. Looking at the Plant-tone, only a small amount of nitrogen is quickly available for a brief, slight boost. Most of the nitrogen is moderate to slow release. This analysis can be done with any properly labeled fertilizer.

Note that organic fertilizers need soil contact for the soil organisms to convert the organics to usable forms. Direct application to soil surface is OK but adds to the surface crust over time. Scratching it in helps. Using tea bags or fertilizer baskets work well but must have good soil contact for the soil organisms to act on the fertilizer.

Fortunately for us, so much more is known about how plants and how fertilizer's function in the soil. This has given rise to more scientific reasons for how fertilizers work rather than relying on urban legends and outdated information. Many changes have occurred in the last several decades and substantial changes have occurred in the past decade...knowledge is constantly evolving. There are dozens and dozens of fertilizers on the market; many brands, many formulations within a brand and the formulations come in various states (see below). This adds to the fray. So, one needs to know the lingo and what the numbers mean. Then you can read a label and have a good idea of what you are looking at.

Many factors affect how fertilizer reacts in the soil:

- Types of soil mix components.
- Ratio of soil mix components.
- Age of the soil mix in a container. Is the soil fresh with fast movement of water through the soil or, is the water moving through the soil slowly and unevenly due to soil compaction with age and salt accumulation. Uneven movement of water=uneven distribution of fertilizer.
- Watering technique used for each plant. Technique will vary by plant due to soil age, soil components, species and to a degree the stage of development.
- Temperature of soil. Organic fertilizers release more quickly with the increase in temperatures as we see in the spring, summer and early fall. Controlled release fertilizers like Apex and Osmocote releases more fertilizer with increasing temperatures, up to a point so that damage does not occur.
- Daily temperature fluctuations in the soil. If you water when it is cool, less fertilizer is released by controlled release fertilizers. Daily fluctuations do not affect organics in the same way.
- Microbe activity increases with the temperature of the soil mix which increases nutrient release. Organics breakdown and release more nutrient in summer than in winter. So, using controlled release is a bit more consistent than organics most of the year. Miracle-Gro is good to use in the cooler months if your plants need a boost since it is a chemical fertilizer
- Water source pH will affect the release and availability of NPK and particularly micronutrients (iron, zinc, magnesium, manganese and all others).
- Water source alkalinity (mineral content and mineral type), our issue is with calcium carbonate which you see on the ground, pots, benches, water wands etc.

- Degree of accumulation of salts on/in the soil surface. Build up will happen and make the soil surface “crusty” and more water repellent thereby reducing the penetration of water and nutrient into the soil.
- Soil cover, if used. Soil covers contain sphagnum moss and some soil mix to help with water retention and soil erosion. The cover will also absorb minerals from the water/fertilizer and eventually become more water repellent again reducing the penetration of water/nutrients into the soil.
- Accumulation over time of organics on the soil surface and in the upper layer of the soil mix. The organic fertilizer residue and breakdown of bark and akadama will also absorb minerals and act as above.
- Lastly, the fertilizer formulation itself. Organics generally are slower to release than chemical fertilizers like MiracleGro, particularly in the cooler months.

Good watering habits are particularly important to get even distribution of water through the soil. If needed, improving the soil surface percolation by replacing the soil mix in the top 1/4” to 3/4” with fresh soil mix. This ensures more even movement of water the fertilizer. You will get more effectiveness out of your fertilizer doing the above.

Regardless of the fertilizer brand, one needs to spend their time knowing what the formulations mean and which state* will work best for the needs of your plants and how you like to fertilize. Homework, speaking with others, and personal use (trial and error) are needed to determine what fertilizers are best for your trees. Like watering, fertilizing does have a learning curve. You will change what you use with experience.

State* means:

- Crystalline form for dissolving in water such as Miracle Gro. Always quick release.
- Pelletized types like Milorganite which is slow release and many common brands which are quick and slow-release types of nutrients.
- Tablet types like Gro-Power tablets. Generally quick release but are semi-controlled release since they are in a hardened tablet form.
- Formed types like Biogold, other Japanese bonsai fertilizers or homemade organic fertilizers cakes. Always slow release.
- Membrane types like controlled release Osmocote and Apex. Always controlled release but with quick release types of nutrients.
- Dry organics like Dr. Earth and Espoma Holly-tone and Plant-tone that are ground and mixed and dusty with other debris from the various sources like the different meals.
- Liquid types that are pre-mixed like fish emulsion and fish hydrolysate, and homemade or manufactured fertilizer teas.
- Greenhouse liquids that are highly filtered and pricey for use in more commercial operations with injector systems and exacting requirements. The products are available to us.

Quite a few fertilizers are being created using some form of technology that controls the release of the nutrients. Less fertilizer is lost due to leaching out of the container and out of the root zone in the ground. This technological advance is in response to the pollution that fertilizers can bring to the environment when applied to often and simply too much. These newer formulations and the widespread use of organic fertilizers are here to stay. They make sense.

There is a mis-understood term which does make a difference in understanding fertilizer activity. **Slow release:** Slow release means that a fertilizer component such as nitrogen needs to be worked on by soil organisms before it is available to the roots for uptake. Urea and organic forms of nitrogen are more slowly released to the plant than quick release chemical types like nitrate (NO₃) and ammonia (NH₄). These are readily available to the plant and highly water soluble...mobile. **Controlled release: Fertilizers** such as Osmocote and Apex prills (BBs) utilize a membrane that controls the release of the nutrients. The form of nitrogen that is within the membrane for Osmocote is nitrate nitrogen and ammoniac nitrogen which are quick release chemical forms of nitrogen readily available to the plant roots but the release is **controlled**, that is they are metered out by the membrane system, watering frequency, amount water per application and very importantly the temperature of the soil. Apex works in almost the same way as Osmocote and also has nitrate and ammoniac nitrogen, and also has Urea nitrogen



which is a slow release form of nitrogen. Urea takes a day or two to be released upon being watered in, whereas nitrate and ammoniac nitrogen are available immediately upon being watered in. Apex is a better combination of nitrogen but at least both are controlled release helping to reduce fertilizer loss/waste. Sometimes slow-release fertilizers controlled release fertilizers are misunderstood as both being organic fertilizers. Slow release is organic based. Controlled release can be organic or chemical but is usually chemical because the release of a chemical is more reliably controlled. There are others but the above are well known to the bonsai community and regularly used, some very extensively. More fertilizers and combinations of fertilizers will be covered later that are used by club members and bonsai professionals in the west and southwest.

You will make some mistakes along the way so be patient and ask a lot of questions. Stuff happens....even to the most experienced bonsai enthusiasts. It is highly recommended to experiment with less expensive nursery plants of specific species to learn how to grow them. Then you will be ready when a really nice tree comes along to purchase

Thank You: from all of us, by Ignacio De La Torre

We thank the following members who donated to the August Refreshments Table:

Wayne Lord, Jaya Kaelberer, Shirley Kavanaugh, Sue and Keith Carter, Jackie Griffin, Julia Chow, Margaret and John Jackson, Sharon and Dan Kitchen, Susan Baker, Brenda Myers, Dan Montross, Clare and Ron Robert's, and John Voss

We thank the following individuals who donated to the August Raffle Table:

Shirley Kavanaugh, John Voss Ken Bross, Eric Jacobson, Sue and Keith Carter, Paul Lawrence, Kazuko and Larry DeStefano, Gary Jones, Margaret and John Jackson, Iris Strom, Gerard Ellison, Nazim Colak, and Kyle Icke,

Donation to the Club:

Mary Ann and Harlan Price donated \$200 to the bonsai collections at the Safari Park and the Japanese Friendship Garden. We extend a special thanks to Mary Ann and Harlan.

Membership: Udaykant Pandey, VP



All new members

Education: Bill Graham, VP

September is here and the first day of Fall is coming on September 22nd. We live in Southern California, so, that might be just a bit delayed. :) Continue to watch the watering of trees and be ready for those late rises in temperatures.

Beginning Class: - Myrtus communis – Common Myrtle – Brenda Cran

August 7 – **September 11** – December -11

This is the second session of the common myrtle class. This session will focus on finishing your styling and the proper way to wire your tree. Keep an eye on your trees and do not let them dry out. Please note the scheduling of this class, **there is no class in October or November and the final class will be in December**. The class starts at 8:30 am in Room 104. Please be on time or a few minutes early. Observers are always welcome. Even if you did not get into the class, you can still observe and learn. **SOLD OUT!**



Intermediate Workshop:

September – Chaenomeles japonica – Dwarf Red Chojubai – Fred Miyahara

Unfortunately, Glenn Jensen had to have surgery and will not be able to lead this class. Fortunately, Fred Miyahara has stepped up and volunteered to lead this class. We are lucky to have such experienced teachers that we can handle a situation like this. Thank you Fred!! We have a special and rare opportunity! Fred Miyahara will be leading a workshop with Chaenomeles japonica - Dwarf Red Chojubai, a small leaved red flowering Japanese quince. These trees make beautiful small bonsai with very pretty flowers. They can flower multiple times during the year and make elegant bonsai.. limited to 6 attendees. **SOLD OUT!**

October – NO WORKSHOP – ANNUAL PICNIC AND SALE AT LAKE POWAY

November – Juniperus procumbens nana

John Voss will be leading a class on Nana Junipers. John has done a lot of pre-work on these trees over the course of several years. They have jin, shari, movement and are really nice. They will make excellent bonsai. All it will take is your design, style and finish on this excellent material. The class will go on sale at the September Meeting. The cost will be \$150.00. **This class is limited to 7 attendees and will go on sale at the September Meeting.**

December – NO WORKSHOP – ANNUAL TREE STYLING CONTEST.

January – NO WORKSHOP – ANNUAL CLUB REPOTTING EVENT. Bring a tree and our many volunteers will help you repot it. Please limit yourself to two (2) trees. PLEASE clean and prune your trees before bringing them in. Soil and assistance will be provided both before and after the meeting.

New members are always excited about taking the beginners classes, and several have asked to be put on a waiting list for the next class. **Please note that sign-up sheets for all classes and workshops are first available at the Bonsai Club meeting TWO months before the classes/workshops are held.** We do not start a waiting list until after the sign-up sheet has been put out at the meeting and filled.

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30 am to 10:15 am on club meeting days at Balboa Park unless otherwise specified. Also, don't forget to bring any trees that you would like some help or advice on from our excellent bonsai masters at the club. Help is in the back of Room 101 to the right of the stage. If you have any ideas that can improve our programs or have skills that you would like to share, please contact me at the monthly meeting or at wfgraham3rd@gmail.com.

If you have any ideas that can improve our programs or have skills that you would like to share, please contact me at wfgraham3rd@gmail.com.



Program Notes from our August Presentation: By Keith Carter



Mike Pistello, presenter at the August meeting, along with SDBC member Matt Gelacio, who assisted with the demonstration

SDBC members at their August meeting welcomed as guest presenter Northern California-based bonsai expert Mike Pistello in his first visit to the club. Pistello, who has won numerous awards for his work with junipers, demonstrated his 28 years of bonsai experience as he adeptly styled an itoigawa juniper while fielding rapid-fire questions from the audience.

When choosing a juniper for styling, Pistello said he looks for a healthy tree with good proportions. One sign of a healthy tree, he said, is that it has runner branches. His next step is to thin out the tree, which gives him an idea of the overall branch structure. However, he reminded, a juniper's strength comes from the foliage. So when doing a first styling, keep as much foliage as possible. As you prune, encourage growth to go from side to side. To shorten a branch, cut only from the central stem – cutting back to weak growth is not good for the tree, he said.

For wiring conifers, Pistello prefers to use copper rather than aluminum wire.

He said copper wire holds in place better and you can use smaller gauges of wire. A rule of thumb is that copper wire can be one-third of the diameter of the branch, while aluminum is one-half the

branch diameter. If there's a doubt, he advised it's better to go one size bigger than smaller.

Pistello, who was assisted in his styling efforts by SDBC member Matt Gelacio, said he recommends using one wire for two branches when possible. And when wiring a juniper, position the branch so it goes down, then up. Keep the wire on as long as you can without allowing it to cut into the branch. As for tightness, he advised keeping the wire flush with the branch, applying it with about the same tightness as you would if you wired your finger without cutting off circulation.

Another critical design element for junipers is shari, which creates the illusion of age and accentuates movement. But, he advised, it's best to start small – “don't try to do it all at one time.” And don't try to make the shari uniform; there can be thick and thin areas. “Straight, flat shari is not appealing,” he said. And the shari should go all the way to the base of the tree.

Junipers are susceptible to both pests and fungus, Pistello said, especially spider mites, scale and aphids. He proactively sprays his trees once a month. He recommends products such as Cleary's and Daconil. If a tree becomes infected, you can use Safari for aphids and scale and Sultan or Floramite for spider mites.

Upon completion of the styling, the tree was put up for auction. After several minutes of spirited bidding, Ian Nicholson, a brand-new member, took home the prize with a winning bid of \$575. Congratulations, Ian!



New SDBC member Ian Nicholson (right) won the bidding for the juniper styled by presenter Mike Pistello

San Diego Bonsai Club Board Meeting Minutes: by Ignacio De La Torre

Board Members present: Bill Graham, Sue Carter, Markel Farley, Jaya Kaelberer, Kyle Icke, Ignacio De La Torre.

Not present: Carla Marasco, Uday Pandey

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

A. Board Nominating Committee

1. Markel leaving position at end of year.
2. Must form Nominating committee composed of two members at-large and one Board member which will make recommendation for candidates for the position.
3. Committee should present candidates to membership at October mtg.
4. Will seek out members.

B. Tool Sales Manager

1. Christine and Darryl will leave position at end of year.
2. Identify possible candidates.
3. Jaya will solicit volunteers at Safari Park.

C. September Program

1. Jason Chan to work on demo tree.

D. Sept. Show

1. Markel will not participate in show due to work conflict.
2. Mark Edgar will oversee much of the show.
3. Club will provide meal during setup day on Thursday.

E. Lake Poway event

1. Club will provide main dish - ham and turkey/rolls/ water./utensils/plates/
2. Will ask members to bring side dishes.
3. Sign-up sheet at next mtg.
4. Club paid for 50 parking spots.

F. Ikebana Society presentation

1. Org asked SDBC for a presentation.
2. Oct 26/ 11:15/Room 101
3. Ignacio will attend.

G. Mary Ann and Harlan Price donated \$200 to club collections at JFG and Safari Park.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Treasurer's Report: by Jaya Kaelberer

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB - TREASURER'S REPORT			budget
Jaya Kaelberer as of 31 July, 2022			
Accounts have been reconciled with Union Bank statements			
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES (QuickBooks)			
SDBC Checking	\$65,872		
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,343		
Bonsai Pavilion Checking	\$17,705		
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$85,921		
SDBC Income	Actuals	Change from previous month	budget
Total Donation Income	\$2,301	No change from m/e June	\$ 2,150
Total Grant Qualcomm	\$750	No change from m/e June	\$ 2,000
Total Education Income	\$8,256	\$2,274: Beg:\$1711,wkshp:\$462, sales:\$100	\$ 6,700
Total Fair Awards			\$ 150
Total Membership Income	\$6,268	\$212: Club dues	\$ 6,000
Total Monthly Program			\$ 1,600
Total Raffle & Auction	\$8,478	\$355: auction, \$401: raffle	\$ 8,000
Total Show Income	\$4,415	No change from m/e June	\$ 7,900
Total Special Projects Income	\$781	\$1,100: Nisei week	\$ 4,500
Total Tool Sales	\$2,790	No change from m/e June	\$ 4,400
Total SDBC Income	\$34,037		\$43,400
SDBC Expenses			budget
Total Bonsai Pavilion	\$3,104	No change from m/e June	\$ 5,500
Total Education	\$5,612	\$1,988:240 scissors beg class, \$193: 18 bonsa	\$ 5,920
Total Japanese Friendship Garden			\$ 1,550
Total Library	\$171	No change from m/e June	\$ 450
Mas Takamashi Grant			\$ 500
Total Membership	\$958	No change from m/e June	\$ 900
Total Monthly Program	\$1,155	\$400 : speaker fees	\$ 7,650
Total Newsletter	\$408	\$96: \$23: Mailchimp fees	\$ 1,050
Total SDBC Club Expenses			
Total GSBF Liability Insurance	\$2,305	No change from m/e June	\$ 2,250
Other	\$898	No change from m/e June	\$ 2,980
San Diego Fair			\$ 300
Power of one scholarship			\$ 300
Total SDBC Fall Show	-\$10	No change from m/e June	\$ 500
Total SDBC Spring Show	\$1,319	No change from m/e June	\$ 1,970
Total Special Projects	-\$120	No change from m/e June	\$ 6,000
Total Taxes	\$2,463	\$1,863: A,M,J Sales tax, \$30: raffle registration	\$ 3,080
Total Tool Table Expenses	\$1,440	No change from m/e May	\$ 2,500
Total SDBC Expense	\$19,705		\$43,400
Net SDBC Income (Loss)	\$14,333		\$0
Our income to date is less than the budget by \$9k (cancelled BAT,SIL,...). Expect income from Nisei, Lake Poway and fall shows			
Our expenses are less than the budget by \$24k but we have expenses coming up (bus rentals, speaker fees, ...)			
We continue to be in excellent shape - thanks to all for meticulously providing deposits and reimbursement forms			
All but one old uncashed cheques have been voided			

SDBC Upcoming Events: *MEETING TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

Month	Date(s)	Location	Rooms
September meeting	11	JFG	104 - only
Sept Fall Show	15 - 18	Casa del Prado	101
Oct Picnic and Auction	9	Lake Poway	
Nov meeting	13	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
Dec meeting	11	Casa del Prado	101 and 104

San Diego Bonsai Club Board

	Ignacio De La Torre igdltx5@gmail.com
1st Vice President :	Kyle Icke Kyle.Icke@sdcounty.ca.gov
Secretary:	Carla Marasco adorebycarla@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Jaya Kaelberer jaya.littletree@cox.net

VP Special Projects :	Markel Farley Mr.Farley.M@gmail.com
VP Education:	Bill Graham wfgraham3rd@gmail.com
VP Membership:	Udaykant Pandey udaykant@gmail.com
Past President:	Sue Carter susangcarter2004@att.net

Appointed Positions

Refreshment Coordinator:	Olivia George
Publicity:	Keith Carter kcarter315@att.net
Sunshine Chair:	Susan Baker baker@susanMbaker.com
Librarian & Historian:	Sonya Holmquist sonyaanneh@gmail.com
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Japanese Friendship Garden

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Liaison :	Barbara French-Lee barbflee@hotmail.com

Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion

Curator:	John Jackson bonsaijohn@cox.net
Assistant Curator:	Dennis Wagner denisW@cox.net
Liaison :	'lyn Stevenson inthegrove@cox.net

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September and October 2022

The Bonsai Wire

Return Service Requested

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